Birz Comics Rutile Collection

高永ひなこ

Takanaga Hinako

リバティ☆リバティ！

Liberty★Liberty!

リバティ☆リバティ！

高永ひなこ

発行
幻冬舎
コミックス

RUTILE R COLLECTION

9784344805583

ISBN4-344-80558-5

C9979 ¥590E

1929979005900

雑誌 54243-89
定価：本体590円+税
発行＝幻冬舎コミックス
発売＝幻冬舎

Liberty★Liberty!

Evil, wicked, mean, and nasty... Good Semes are hard to find.

Biblo Eros ~Liquid Passion Euphoria

Eagerly seeking Translators!

Readers of Japanese kanji or just furigana, as well as Chinese in traditional or simplified, are equally welcome! If you have other skills or just want to help out, by all means, come on by!

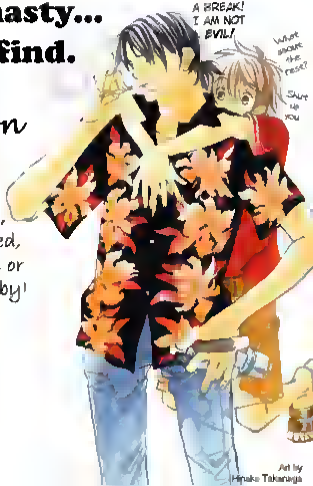
We have ways of showing you.

Experience is always welcome, but not necessary.

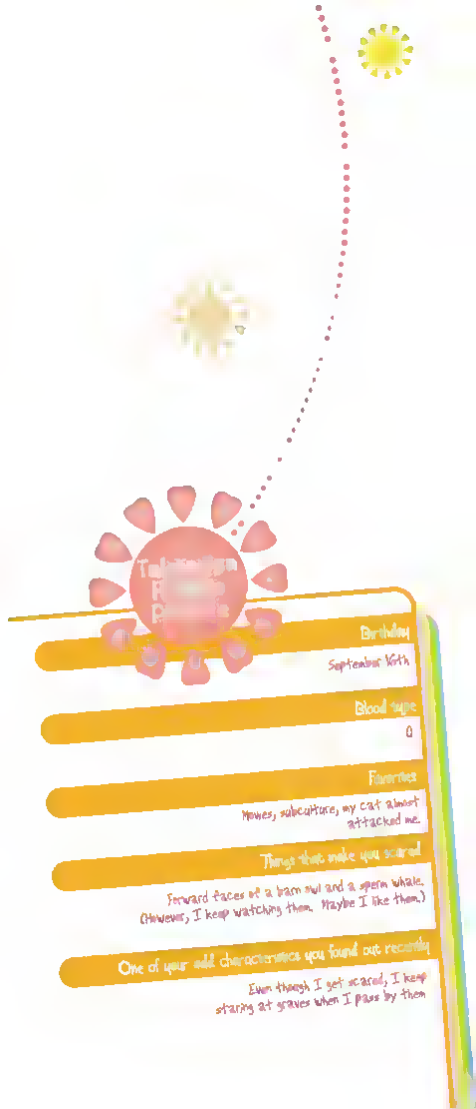
www.HackTheMainstream.com

#liquidpassion@irc.irchighway.com

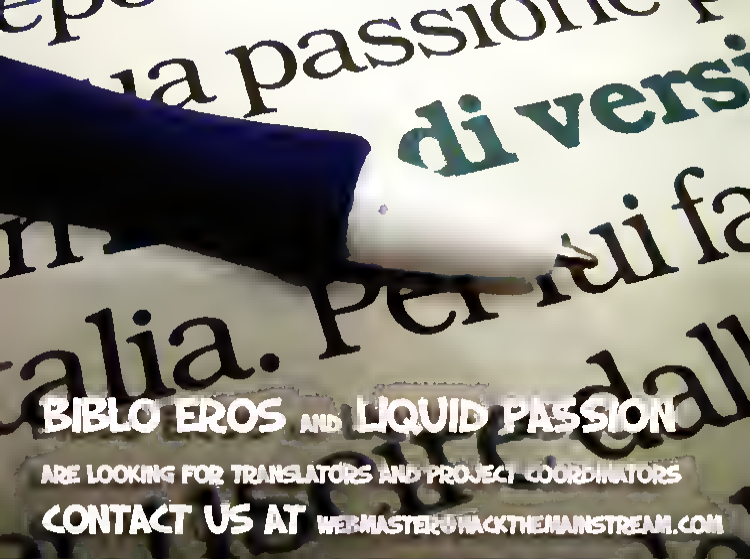
Scanlating our Semes Addictions One by One!



Art by Hinako Takanaga


Birthday
September 16th
Blood type
O
Favorites
Movies, subcultures, my cat almost attacked me.
Things that make you scared
Forward faces of a barn owl and a sperm whale. (However, I keep watching them. Maybe I like them.)
One of your odd characteristics you found out recently
Even though I get scared, I keep staring at graves when I pass by them

Liberty★Liberty!

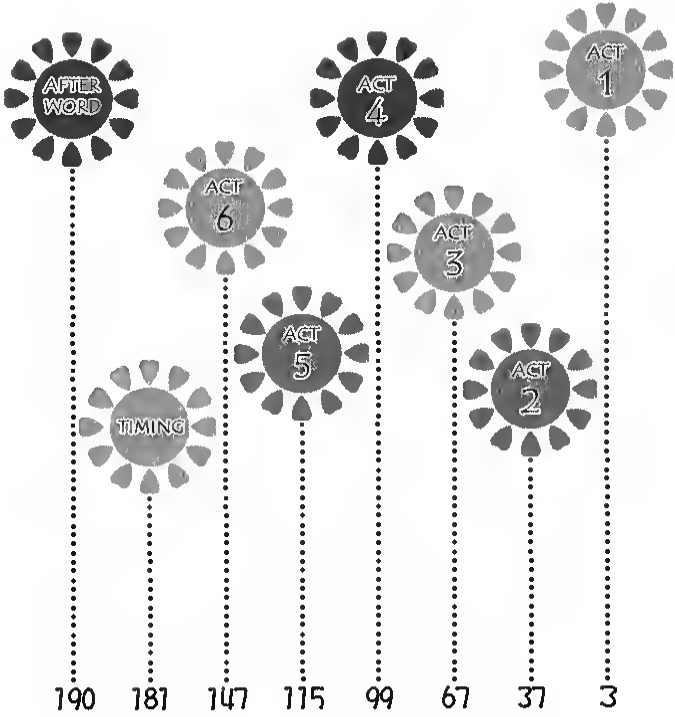

BIBLO EROS AND LIQUID PASSION
ARE LOOKING FOR TRANSLATORS AND PROJECT COORDINATORS
CONTACT US AT WEBMASTER@HACKTHEMAINSTREAM.COM

Birz Comics Rutile Collection

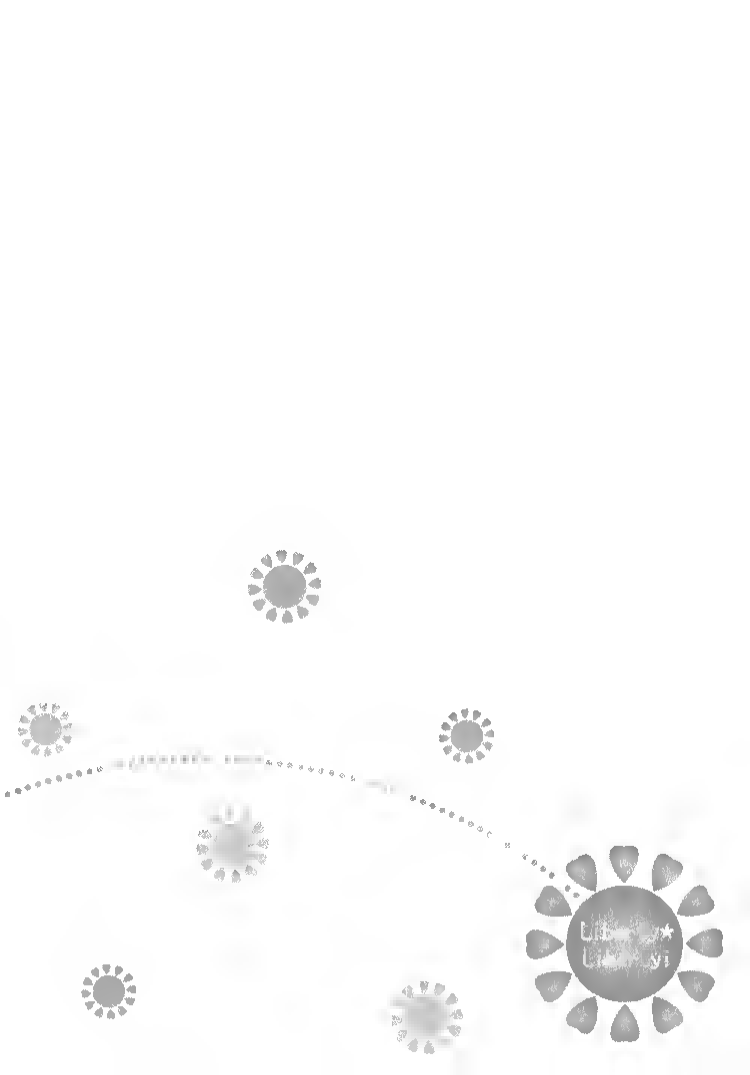
liberty☆liberty!

高永ひなこ
Takanaga Hinako

CONTENTS


ACT 1
ACT 2
ACT 3
ACT 4
ACT 5
ACT 6
TIMING
AFTER WORD
3
37
67
99
115
147
181
190

ACT
1

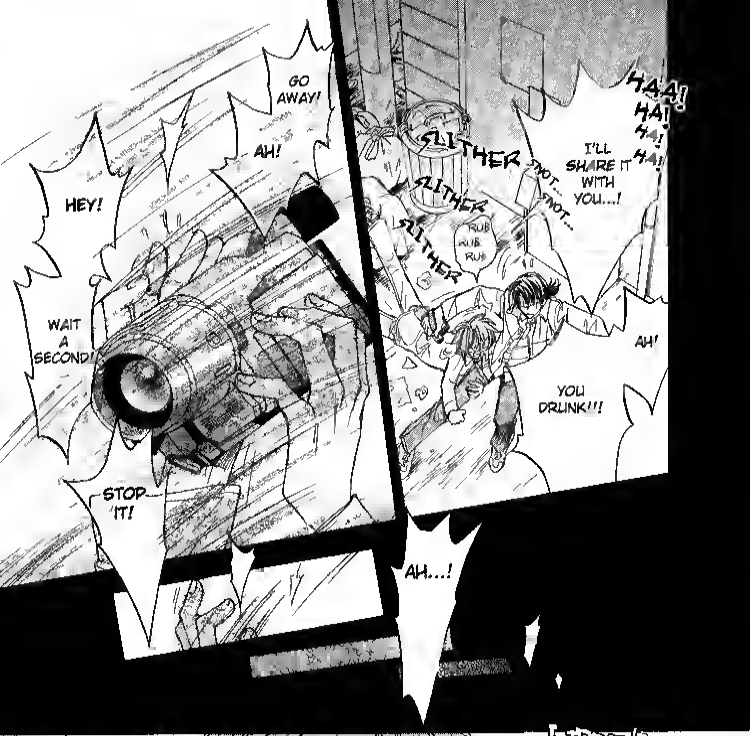


ON A CERTAIN STREET CORNER IN OSAKA...
A MAN HAS COLLAPSED ON A MOUNTAIN OF TRASH...
SEX Brunette
TROAN
MEOW?
WHAT THE...? I THOUGHT IT SMELLED NASTY...
THIS IS...? A GARBAGE DUMP?
HUH?
WHY AM I HERE?

THE SMELL OF ALCOHOL IS THAT ME?
SNIFF
AH?
I KNOW THAT SOUR, BITTER SMELL
DID I THROW UP?
IT REEKS, BUT I CAN'T REALLY COMPLAIN
AHHH ! MY BODY ACHES ALL OVER
I CAN'T MOVE
MEOW?
I THINK I REMEMBER FALLING DOWN SOME STAIRS EARLIER...?
WELL, IF I STAY LIKE THIS, I'LL BE HAULED OFF WITH THE REST OF THE GARBAGE.
SNERK
AH, THIS IS SORT OF FUNNY
IT SUITS ME SO WELL
SMIRK
SMIRK
SMIRK
SMIRK
RETCH
PLEASE, TAKE ME OUT WITH THE TRASH, DEAR GARBAGE COLLECTOR.
WHIRRRRRRR
HUH ?

WHIRRRRRR
RRRR
?
WHAT THE ..?
OH!
YOU'RE AWAKE
WELL, IT'S JUST..
YOU WERE LYING IN THE TRASH, LAUGHING AND PUKING AT THE SAME TIME.
I THOUGHT, YOU DON'T MEET SOME-ONE LIKE THAT EVERY DAY

SLAM
!?
WHAAAAAAA!
ARRGH!
GROSS!!
TEARS
...IS MAKING FUN OF ME!
GARBAGE
VOMIT
DRAG DRAG DRAG
EVEN THIS TOTAL STRANGER...
WHAT ARE YOU...?
WHOA!
MEOW!


GO AWAY!
AH!
HEY!
WAIT A SECOND!
STOP IT!
SLITHER
SLITHER
SLITHER
RUB RUB RUB
NOT... NOT...
I'LL SHARE IT WITH YOU...!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
AH!
YOU DRUNK!!!
AH...!

!
WIDE AWAKE

Chirp!
Chirp!
Chirp!
HUH...?
?
Chirp!
HUH?
WHAT THE...?
WHERE AM I?
SFX: THROBBING
AH
OW...
SITTING UP ABRUPTLY
OI!
ARE YOU AWAKE?

WAA...
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE GOT A SPLENDID HANGOVER
I'm not surprised.
UM...
EXCUSE ME, BUT WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
Chu!
And where am I?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
WELL, I GUESS IT'S NO WONDER.
YOU WERE DEAD DRUNK.
Grumble...
UH...
DID I CAUSE YOU ANY TROUBLE?
Translator's Notes
I don't know if it's coming across but Haru's language just got super-polite. He's all 'Boku' and dochira-sama and go-meiwaku and stuff. The poor guy is going to be soooo embarrassed when he realizes he threw up all over his host!

OVER THERE
I JUST HUNG THEM TO DRY.
FIRST OF ALL, YOUR CLOTHES AND MINE WERE BOTH COVERED IN VOMIT AND TRASH.
I HAD TO WASH EVERYTHING.
HUH ..?
I FISHED ALL YOUR BELONGINGS OUT OF THE GARBAGE DUMP.
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO LET A DRUNK PERSON BATHE, SO .
I WIPED YOUR BODY AND HAIR WITH A WET TOWEL.
!
That's why I'm naked?!
...
I SAVED YOUR LIFE
I CARRIED YOU ALL THE WAY HERE, STRUGGLING LIKE A CRAZY MAN, AND GAVE YOU WATER.
IF I'D LEFT YOU WHERE YOU WERE, YOU MIGHT HAVE CHOKED TO DEATH ON YOUR OWN VOMIT
SORRY I MADE YOU SLEEP ON THE FLOOR.
I WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT THROW UP ON THE BED OR THE SOFA.

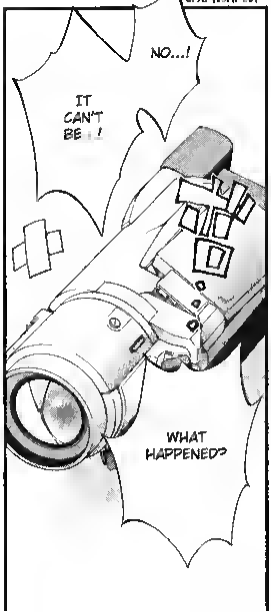
THIS IS TERRIBLE!
AH...
UM...
I'M TRULY SORRY
ALL THIS? FOR A COMPLETE STRANGER?
WELL, NEVER MIND THAT
TADA!
LOOK.
THIS.
HUH?
What is it?!
JUST THIS
IF YOU'LL JUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE.

AH...
IT SEEMS TO BE BROKEN...?
How did you do that?
IT'S GONNA COST AROUND 200,000 YEN.*
IT BELONGS TO MY COMPANY, AND I NEED IT TO MAKE A LIVING.
(*Around $1,700.00 USD)
YOU MORON!
IF YOU CAN'T REMEMBER, I'LL CRACK YOUR BRAIN IN HALF AND SHOW IT TO YOU!
Hello!? Hello!? Anyone home?
DO YOU THINK I TOOK IT OUT OF MY OWN HANDS AND HURLED IT AT THE WALL!?
!
HUH?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I DON'T.. HAVE ANY MONEY
AHHH...
AHH
EHH, BUT..
I'
I..

SFX: BAM!
KOUKI!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!?
I'M SORRY! IT IS ALL MY FAULT!
BUT I REALLY
I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY! BELIEVE ME!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU'VE GOT IT OR NOT! I WON'T LET YOU GO UNTIL YOU PAY ME BACK IN FULL!
IDIOT!
!
THERE WAS A COMPLAINT FROM YOSHIDA-SAN THIS MORNING!
YOU, SKIPPING OUT ON WORK? WHAT ON EARTH IS ?!

SFX. Fuming

SFX. Worn-out



HA...?
YOU'RE CUTE...FOR A DRUNK.
HE GOT PRESSED.
I...
WHAT SHALL I DO?
WHAT A MESS. WE'RE SHORT ON EQUIPMENT AS IT IS.
IF YOU'VE GOT A COMPLAINT, TAKE IT UP WITH HIM.
SEE? I CAN'T WORK EVEN IF I WANT TO.
Panting Panting
AHHHH...?!
THE LOAN IS NOWHERE NEAR PAID OFF!
WE JUST BOUGHT IT
I'M SORRY! I'M SO SORRY!
WHAT'S THE POINT OF SAYING THAT NOW? THEY WERE BOTH BUSY! IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT?
THAT'S WHY I ASKED FOR SUZUKI-SAN OR KOMAGOME-KUN TO ASSIST ME!
I CAN'T HANDLE DOING A STAKEOUT ALL BY MYSELF!
ARE YOU TWO WITH THE POLICE, OR SOMETHING?
EXCUSE ME ..?
YOU SAID STAKEOUT?

*Translator's Notes: A local cable broadcast company is a provider of cable networks for small areas such as one small country or half of a city. It provides all sorts of different channels and usually has its own channels too. To fill its own channel air time, the company makes low budget programs related to the area or buy programs from other film studios.

Hi!
REPORTER AND ANCHORWOMAN...
ANCHOR-WOMAN? DREAM ON
YOU'RE A...
MAN...!
SFX. Bam!
HUH?
SPINNING
A...
MAN?
...TOKITA KURIMI-CHAN!
Nice To Meet You!
OH!
Ho!
Ho!
Ho!
Ho!
Ho!
DON'T MIND HIM
BY THE WAY, YOU ARE...?
UH...
I'M...

I'M ...
YAICHI ITARU
NICE TO MEET YOU!
ANYWAY..
I'M HEADING BACK TO WORK
Hurry up and follow me!
ALL RIGHT..
I NEED TO EXPLAIN THINGS TO YOSHIDA-SAN
YOU PROPOSED THIS PROJECT
SEE IT THROUGH TO THE END
IS THERE ANY PLACE WE CAN BORROW A CAMERA?
OK! I'LL SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT
Murmur..
CAN WE ASK KYOUBASHI?

AH...
YOSHIDA-SAN FROM 3-CHOME
...HAS BEEN HARASSED BY A STALKER RECENTLY
Are you guys in trouble because of me?
CHE-!
NO.
SLAM!
UM
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT A PROJECT?
HE IS NOT OUR BANK
BYE...
"YOU SHOULDN'T JUST EAT INSTANT NOODLES ALL THE TIME."
A STALKER!
...AND CALLS AND TELLS HER THINGS LIKE...
HE DIGS THROUGH YOSHIDA-SAN'S GARBAGE PRACTICALLY EVERY DAY...
Everyone! Here is the Enemy of Women!
TADA!
Pop Out!
WE'RE CALLING IT "24-HOUR COVERAGE OF THE STALKER OF YOSHIDA-SAN IN 3-CHOME!"
THE PLAN WAS TO GATHER ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO ARREST HIM.
SO...
IF WE HIDE OUT IN THE GARBAGE DUMP, WE'LL FIND THE CULPRIT.
ANYTIME
ANYTIME
ANYTIME
YEAH
SURE
3-Chome?
It's really, really oriental!
IT KINDA DOES
Real grassroots stuff, don't you think?
THAT'S IT!
SOUNDS EXCITING, RIGHT?

I'M SORRY...
I'M SORRY...
OH!
AHH!?
YOU WERE SLEEPING ON YOSHIDA-SAN'S TRASH.
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE CULPRIT...
BUT IT TURNED OUT THAT YOU WERE JUST A DRUNK.
AND NOW, HERE WE ARE
Am I we ended up rooting through Yoshida-san's trash again?
ANYWAY,
YOU SAID YOUR NAME WAS YAICHI?
WHAT'S YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION?
JUST IN CASE YOU SLIP AWAY
AH...?
HMMM...
MY CONTACT INFORMATION?

I JUST CAME BACK FROM TOKYO YESTERDAY...
I HAVEN'T FOUND A PLACE TO LIVE...
WHAT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU WERE CARRYING A BIG BAG
WHAT'S THE NUMBER FOR YOUR PARENTS' PLACE?
!
PLEASE! ANYTHING BUT THAT!
WHAT?
ARE YOU A RUNAWAY?
NO!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...

I JUST CAN'T BE A BURDEN TO THEM.
I DROPPED OUT OF COLLEGE AND CAME BACK HOME
OF COURSE, MY PARENTS KNOW ABOUT IT.
WHATEVER.
YOUR SITUATION IS NOT MY CONCERN
IF YOU CAN'T PAY FOR IT, I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN
SHOUT!
I'LL... DEFINITELY PAY YOU BACK!
IT MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME BUT... I'LL DO IT!

SO PLEASE DON'T...!
CONTACT MY PARENTS
I'M BEGGING YOU...
HMM...
MUST BE A STORY THERE. DON'T YOU THINK?
YEAH...
don't really get it.

HERE YOU ARE, KOUKI -SAN!
AH! Thanks!
IS IT OK TO LEAVE A STRANGER
IN YOUR PLACE BY HIMSELF?
WHY NOT?
THERE'S NOTHING VALUABLE
Besides he's got a hell of a hangover he'll be still sleeping
H..KO-CHAN?
WHERE'S KOMA-GOME-KUN?
HE'S OUT ON ASSIGNMENT TODAY.
SUZUKI-SAN TOO.
AH, REA-LY?
ANYWAY...
IT'S ONLY 200,000 YEN.

RUB!
RUB!
RUB!
DRAG...
I THOUGHT HE WAS SOME KIND OF PUNK.
CONSIDERING THE WAY HE ACTED.
WHEN I SAW THAT GUY DEAD DRUNK...
Brushing, Brushing.
WE ARE TOO POOR TO SPARE "ONLY" 200,000 YEN RIGHT NOW.
YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO START FEELING SORRY FOR HIM
I KNOW THAT.
HEY KOUKI,
AND THEN, JUST BECAUSE OF THAT, HE WAS ALL TREMBLING AND BEGGING ME...
...I FELT LIKE I WAS THE BAD GUY.
Sigh..!

What?
YOU DON'T LOOK IT, BUT YOU HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR HELPLESS LITTLE CREATURES.
Gulp
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "YOU DON'T LOOK IT"?
I LOOK LIKE THE KINDEST PERSON IN THE WORLD!
I'M LIKE A COOL BIG BROTHER.
BUT THIS IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
I'LL GET THE 200,000 YEN FROM HIM FOR SURE.
If all else fails, I'll make him get a loan from the loan sharks!
OH, I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE IN YOU

WHY?
IT'S TOO MUCH...
PLEASE! JUST...!
IT'S NO USE...
OF COURSE, I UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM, BUT...
THIS IS...?
NO MATTER HOW KINDLY YOU LOOK AT IT, IT'S...
AND NOW YOU'VE COME CRAWLING BACK HOME?
I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT... YOU KNOW...?
A GUY LIKE YOU?
YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED.

WORTH-LESS LOSER.
Oi...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? Oi!
...!
HUH?
DID I...?
Just got home.
YOU WERE HAVING AN AWFUL NIGHT-MARE.
...YOU HAVE A FEVER

YOU'RE SWEATING LIKE CRAZY.
CAN YOU STAND UP? YOU'D BETTER CHANGE...
UH...
WHY!?
What's wrong?
!
OUCH!
!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FOOT?!
UH...
YESTERDAY, WHEN I WAS DRUNK I PROBABLY FELL DOWN SOMEWHERE
MY GOD!
IT'S ALL RIGHT IT'S JUST A SPRAIN
I DIDN'T REALIZE LAST NIGHT.
DID IT SWELL UP GRADUALLY...?
YEAH..
Why didn't you tell me earlier?!
THIS MUST BE THE REASON FOR THE FEVER TOO...
Maybe we should go to a hospital?

WAIT A SEC..
THERE SHOULD BE A COLD PACK SOME-WHERE...
I'M SO... SORRY...
Clatter
Rustle
Rustle
...?
ALL RIGHT
IT'S DONE.
TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF.
AH...
Sliding
YOU NEED TO CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES
I'LL WIPE YOU DOWN TOO
AH...

BUT...
HOW COME I ALWAYS END UP DOING STUFF LIKE THIS...?
HUH...?
UM...
KOUKI-SAN?
It feels GOOD
...SO WARM...
WELL... UMMM
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
That's what I want to know!
I...
...CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE.
I'VE...
BEING SO KIND TO ME?
WHY ARE YOU...

I CAN'T TRUST ANYONE ANYMORE...
IT'S BEEN SO LONG... SINCE SOMEONE TREATED ME SO NICELY...
I...
SOME-HOW I FEEL SO RELIEVED...
I RAN AWAY.
LIKE THIS...

HEY!
YAICHI?
WAAA!
Whump!
What!! I do if he catches a cold—on top of everything?
ARE YOU COMING DOWN WITH A COLD?
HEY! LET ME GO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

Zzzz
z
z
z
!
z
z
z
z
UM
ER
z
z
z
z
Scratch...
Scratch...
Scratch...
END

Liberty Liberty!

by Takanaga Hinako

~Chapter 2~

Scanner:
[illegible]

Translator:
We[illegible]0

Proofreader:
Sara Tanaquil

Editors:
Deat[illegible]ar, Ookami Kasumi, Lonasan

QCers:
Sara Tanaquil, Faye

[illegible]PASSION@IRC[illegible]IRCHIGHWAY.NET

Biblo Eros

HackTheMainstream.com

#DANGEROUS-PLEASURE@IRCHIGHWAY.NET

Dangerous Pleasure

DpScanlations DeathsVeri[illegible].com

ACT
2

WELL?
HOW'S YOUR FOOT?
JUMP JUMP
FULLY RECOVERED, THANKS TO YOU!
Look I can even jump!
REALLY?
Yup yup
THAT'S GREAT.

Ehe!!!
YOU'VE TAKEN SUCH GOOD CARE OF ME
I LIVED BY MYSELF IN TOKYO... SO I CAN DO THE BASIC STUFF.
FROM NOW ON, I'LL HELP YOU OUT WITH CHORES AROUND THE HOUSE.
WHAM
Ha ha ha
STOP RIGHT THERE!
WHO SAID YOU COULD KEEP FREELOADING AT MY PLACE?
Eh?
EH?
HUH?
SQUISH
LIKE HELL! THAT WAS JUST BECAUSE I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT IF I THREW AN INJURED PERSON OUT ON THE STREET.
Idiot!!!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO LET ME STAY UNTIL I PAY YOU BACK

Scanned with CamScanner

LOAN
A LOAN...?
NO WAY
...
DON'T YOU HAVE TO WATCH ME?
WHAT?
IF...
IF YOU KICK ME OUT, I MIGHT RUN OFF WITHOUT PAYING MY DEBT...
...!
OHO
YOU'VE GOT SOME GUTS.
ahh...
HOW DARE YOU BLACKMAIL ME?!!
HEY, YOU TWO.
ARE YOU GOING TO START BRAWLING IN THE STREET IN BROAD DAYLIGHT?
BE NICE..

KURUMI-SAN.
ITARU-CHAN.
YOU CAN WALK NOW?
MORNING!
THAT'S GREAT
Thank you!
I WAS JUST SENDING HIM OUT TO LOOK FOR A JOB.
Looks good today too.
Even if you are a man.
BY THE WAY, KURUMI, WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE CAMERA?
*Pharmacy
AHH, YES!
...
IT'S ONLY BEEN A WEEK ...
I WAS ABLE TO BORROW ANOTHER CAMERA OF THE SAME KIND.
REALLY?!

JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE'S A LITTLE BIT NICE TO ME ...
I'M SO SIMPLE ...
I KNOW I'M ASKING A LOT
MONEY ISN'T THE ONLY REASON WHY IT'S HARD TO LEAVE
RU
ITARU?
WHY DO I FEEL
SO COM-FORT-ABLE?

* Takoyaki

EHH?
HOW FAR WERE YOU PLANNING TO FOLLOW US?
ARE YOU GOING TO FOLLOW US INTO THE STATION?
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING FOR A JOB?

HUH...?
BUT... THE STATION...?
glance
ひまわり商店街*
*Sunflower Market Street
* Rice store. A small store which sells all sorts of grains, especially rice. Depending on the size or weight of your purchase, you can have them delivered for free.
ta——da
WORN-OUT...
Next to a rice store
welcome!
THIS IS A TV STATION?
Well hey
Well we're local, you know!

EVEN THOUGH IT'S A SMALL, LOCALLY-ORIENTED CABLE CHANNEL
good morning
good morning
SEVERAL COMPANIES, INCLUDING MAJOR CORPORATIONS, ARE INVESTING MONEY IN US
AH, MIGHT YOU BE ITARU-KUN?
SO, THIS PLACE... ONE OF OUR SPONSORS LETS US USE HIS EMPTY WAREHOUSE .. IT IS KINDA RUN-DOWN, BUT...
THIS IS HAKODA YOUKO-CHAN.
smile
THIS IS KOMAGOME-KUN
HEY
SUZUKI-SAN
IS IN CHARGE OF SALES AND TECHNOLOGY AND SOMETIMES HE HELPS OUT WITH EDITING...
has lots of connections
NICE TO MEET YOU
bow
PLEASE, CALL ME HAKO
SHE TAKES CARE OF ALL THE BUSINESS OF RUNNING THE OFFICE
kind of like a secretary/ manager
SHE HAS A WHOLE RANGE OF QUALIFICATIONS SHE'S AMAZING
HE IS OUR CHIEF EDITOR AND KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT THE EQUIPMENT
...

CRY
WE'RE SMALL, BUT EVERYONE WORKS HARD!
Cameraman, editor and writer
TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, OUR ENTIRE STAFF CONSISTS OF FIVE PEOPLE
Uhh, umm
IS THAT ALL?
YOU GUYS ARE THE BEST...!
Reporter, editor and station chief
SHUT UP
NOW IT'S SORT OF LIKE A CABLE NETWORK BRANCH OFFICE.
IT USED TO BE A KIND OF FILMMAKING STUDIO.
USUALLY A SMALL STUDIO LIKE THIS WOULD ONLY NEED AN EDITOR.
IT'S VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I IMAGINED
RING
WOW!
WE MANAGE BY SHARING ALL THE JOBS.
Have some tea.
Oh, Thanks
THERE'RE MORE PEOPLE IN SALES AND ENGINEERING
WE GET SOME HELP FROM OUR MAIN OFFICE SOMETIMES, TOO

AH! GOOD MORNING, YOSHIDA-SAN!
HELLO
SUNFLOWER CABLE NETWORK
RATTLE
Click
AH! IS THAT YOSHIDA-SAN, WHO WAS BEING STALKED..?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT
TOMORROW IS TRASH DAY!
Last minute appeal...
SHAKE
SHAKE
KOUKI!
CAN YOU GO TO HER PLACE TONIGHT?
WELL, LIKE I SAID, IF YOU'D GIVE ME SOME BACKUP

AH, IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK ...
click
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, PERHAPS NEXT WEEK ...
puke
puke
puke
EXCUSE ME ...
me
me
I'M ...
FREE AT THE MOMENT.
WHY WOULD I CARE IF YOU'RE FREE?
YOU NEED HELP WITH THE STAKEOUT, RIGHT?
I CAN HELP FETCH AND CARRY.
...
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING FOR A JOB!
BUT I MESSED UP YOUR PLAN LAST TIME ...

GET ITARU-CHAN TO HELP!
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA, ISN'T IT?
BOY
LET ME HELP, PLEASE!
PLEASE!
KURUMI!
HOW CAN HE HELP? HE DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING!
YAY
CHUU
IT'S PERFECT.
WE ALWAYS NEED A HAND AND ITARU-CHAN OWES US.
MIND WORKING FOR US UNTIL YOU GET A JOB?
Sure!
But we don't pay you at night!

WOW~

WE'VE GOT A NICE VIEW OF THE DUMP FROM HERE

THAT'S THE PLACE WHERE YOU PUKED.

GOOD TIMES, EH?

AHAHAHA...

FIRST OF ALL, FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THIS.

WE MAY NEED TO TAKE TURNS...

We'll be using the setting for night-time filming.

Can't afford to buy a high quality camera

sigh...

EVEN I KNOW HOW TO USE A CAMCORDER...

IT'LL BE FINE

...

UMM...

COULD YOU GUYS...

JUST HIRE ME?

WHAT?!!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

IF I COULD PAY YOU BACK WITH MANUAL LABOR, A LITTLE BIT AT A TIME...
I'M NOT SURE WHEN I CAN PAY YOU BACK WITH MONEY, BUT...
I DON'T MIND WORKING FOR FREE, LIKE TODAY.
WE'RE TOO POOR TO HIRE A PART-TIMER IN THE FIRST PLACE.
UMM... SKILLS?
EHH?
DO YOU HAVE ANY SKILLS?
WITH MANUAL LABOR...? IF YOU CAN'T MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL, YOU'LL BE MORE OF A BURDEN.
YOU'RE GOOD AT WRITING?
WRITE...
UMM... ALL I CAN DO IS...
ANYWAY, THE FINAL DECISION WOULD BE UP TO KURUMI.
Kurumi's the director.
THERE'S A LOT OF WORK WRITING SCRIPTS FOR PROGRAMS...
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN SAY I'M GOOD AT IT.
AH... BUT...
IT'S KIND OF MY HOBBY...

EH?
BUT, YOU KNOW, ALL OF US HAVE SIDE JOBS
KURUMI WORKS PART-TIME AT A GAY BAR CALLED MINAMI.
It's more like fun than a job.
HAKO-CHAN DOES FREELANCE ACCOUNTING JOBS FOR PEOPLE.
KOMAGOME-KUN IS THE ONLY SON, SO HE HELPS OUT AT HIS PARENTS' ELECTRONICS STORE.
SUZUKI-SAN WORKS AT HIS BROTHER'S RICE STORE FROM TIME TO TIME.
* Suzuki rice store
BUT IT'S A SECRET FROM THE MAIN OFFICE!
WOW... AMAZING.
SO, DON'T ACT LIKE A SPOILED KID
I ALSO SOMETIMES WORK AS A BARTENDER ON MY DAYS OFF.
YOU HAVE A DEBT TO REPAY.

AHH...
NOBODY'S COMING.
THAT'S HOW IT GOES ON A STAKEOUT.
YES...
NEVER MIND WORKING FOR US GET A REAL JOB!
I'M HUNGRY. TAKE THIS AND GO GET US SOMETHING TO EAT.
I WANT A SANDWICH AND A CAN OF COFFEE. NO SUGAR!
YEAH.
24
SPOILED...
YEAH, HE'S RIGHT... I GOT SPOILED.

A NAIVE LITTLE KID
beep
beep
IF KOUKI-SAN HADN'T PICKED ME UP, I WOULDN'T EVEN BE EATING TODAY
I GOT UPSET AND RAN AWAY
*about 1947 USD
WAS THAT WHY...?
beep
982
THAT'LL BE 982 YEN.
AH... MORE DEBT TO REPAY...
THAT'S WHY
SUCH A LAX AND SLIPSHOD MIND...
THINGS TURNED OUT THE WAY THEY DID.
HUH?

THAT'S... COULD IT BE ...

!!

AT LAST ..!?

hiding

WAH ...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

I CAN'T GET BACK WITHOUT PASSING THE STALKER ...

HAS KOUKI-SAN NOTICED HIM...?

CHE-

IT'S THE STALKER! WHAT BAD TIMING.

WHRRRR

THE MAIN THING'S THAT I NEED TO GET A GOOD SHOT OF HIS FACE.

AH HE'S GETTING HIM ON TAPE!

wave

wave

flicker

KOUKI-SAN

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

What should I do?

HE HASN'T NOTICED ME.

EH?

I GUESS I HAVE TO USE THE SAME TRICK AS BEFORE
TALK TO HIM AND WHEN HE TURNS AROUND
I'LL GET A SHOT OF HIS FACE
Oh, nice shot
EH?
LWA!
HE'S NOT GETTING MY SIGNAL AT ALL...?
wave wave
SLASH
!!
HE'S HOLDING A KNIFE!
KOUKI-SAN CAN'T SEE IT FROM HIS ANGLE!

STARTLE
AH, EXCUSE ME
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?
LOOK OUT! KOUKI-SAN!
wave
LOOK OUT!
wave
!!!
YOU'RE IN DANGER!
JUMP
JUMP
CAN I GIVE YOU A HAND?
AH... NO I'M FINE
REALLY, IT'S NO TROUBLE
SQUEEZE
KOUKI-SAN!

!
WHAT!?
STARTLED
KOUKI-SAN, HE'S GOT A KNIFE!!!
!!
AH
SLASH
WHOA!
SLASH

DASH
KOUKI-SAN.
Thump
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
NEVER MIND ME, GO AFTER HIM!
DON'T LET HIM GO, NO MATTER WHAT!
RIGHT!
STOP RIGHT THERE!
!!
YOU ...

THIEF!
The food he just bought for dinner (including the can of coffee)
WOW!
!
THUMP
clatter
GREAT JOB, ITARU!
SHOW ME HIS FACE!
struggle
struggle
CUT IT OUT ...!

Owwww!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!!
!!
What the heck! You didn't have to go that far!
A... LADY...?
* Police station
THEN, WE'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU.
MUCH OBLIGED TO YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

I NEVER THOUGHT ONE MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN WOULD STALK ANOTHER
What a scary world
ANYWAY, WE GOT SOME GOOD FOOTAGE!
IT WAS A BIT DANGEROUS, THOUGH.
I SIGNALED YOU, BUT YOU DIDN'T NOTICE ME AT ALL
I was worried sick.
YOU SIGNALED ME?
YES, LIKE THIS
WAVE WAVE
OH, I SEE.
YOU WERE ON MY LEFT SIDE
SORRY. I CAN'T SEE WELL WITH MY LEFT EYE.
HUH?

WHAT DID HE SAY...?
WELL, SHALL WE GO BACK AND EDIT THIS FILM?
EH?
BUT...
KOUKI-SAN IS A CAMERA MAN...?
I'M NEARLY BLIND IN MY LEFT EYE.
SORRY ABOUT THAT
HEY, ITARU.

IT'S BLEEDING
YOU'D BETTER LICK IT
There, look
HUH?
LI... LICK IT?
?
YEAH.
WELL...
OK...
eh
lick

LOOK AT IT.
IDIOT! I MEANT YOUR ELBOW.
AH
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!!
WHOA !!!
STARTLE
EH? YOU TOLD ME TO LICK IT.
SORRY
lick
WHOOPS
...

FOR A WHILE, I THOUGHT IT WAS A JOKE.

END

Liberty, Liberty!

by Takanaga Hinako

~Chapter 3~

Scanner:
[illegible]

Translator:
WellO

Proofreaders:
Sara Tanaquil & Jojomalone

Editor:
Ooka Yasumi

QCers:
Sara Tanaquil & Faye

#liquidpassion@irc.irchighway.net
Biblo Eros
HackTheMainstream.com

#dangerous-pleasure@irchighway.net
Dangerous Pleasure
DpScanlations.DeathsVerse.com

ACT
3

BAM
ATTENTION, EVERYONE!
GREAT NEWS!
LOOKS LIKE THE STALKER DOCUMENTARY
WENT OVER WELL!
JUMP
I'm soooo happy!
WE'VE GOTTEN A TON OF NEW CABLE SUBSCRIBERS!♡
THAT'S GREAT!
REALLY?

We're going out tonight to celebrate!!
WE GOT A PLAQUE FROM THE POLICE THANKING US FOR OUR HELP, TOO!
PEOPLE REALLY DO LOVE THEIR LOCAL CABLE CHANNELS, AFTER ALL!
IT WAS EVEN PICKED UP BY THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER...!
HOOO...!
HOW ABOUT A REWARD FOR THE ONES WHO MADE THAT POSSIBLE?
WHY ITARU?!
NO WAY!
How about some appreciation over here?!
Hug
YOU'RE RIGHT!
WE OWE IT ALL TO YOU, ITARU-CHAN!!
Huh, ?!

CHEERS!
...TO THE EVERLASTING SUCCESS OF SUNFLOWER CNW...
CLANK!
ALL TOGETHER NOW...
2F
KARAOKE
I WAS THE ONE WHO CAME UP WITH THE PLAN...
Of course I wouldn't be captured on camera...
Because I'm the cameraman
COME ON, KOUKI, I GET IT...
I told you I was just kidding!
The part where you caught the stalker was so cool!
Not even close!
WHAT A DINKY REWARD
SIGH...
Karaoke and snacks from the convenience store
DRINKS ARE ON THE HOUSE FOR BOTH OF YOU...
IT'S YOUR REWARD!
Aren't you greedy?
I DON'T NEED REWARD.
UM...

BEER
AHH ..
YOU'RE SO GOOD.
SEE?
YOU GET IT! RIGHT, ITARU?
I'M NOT EVEN AN EMPLOYEE I OWE YOU...
AND I JUST WANTED TO HELP KOUKI -SAN
BUT..
YOU FELL ON YOUR BUTT AT THE MOST IMPORTANT MOMENT
HA-HA-HA...
HOW UNCOOL
GIVE ME A BREAK, SUZUKI -SAN!
THAT'S
BECAUSE THE STALKER SLASHED HIS HAND
?
I DON'T..
I'M HAPPY THAT I COULD HELP BUT

Blush...
...
I DON'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE I'M TAKING THE CREDIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK
I DON'T LIKE THAT
HM..?
STARE...
OH!
CRAP!
AWKWARD...
SILENCE...
OI, KURUMI...
Don't come out and say it so bluntly!
COME ON, ITARU...
UM.. I MEAN..
S-SORRY..
MUMBLE MUMBLE
WE ALL KNOW THAT! WE'RE JUST TEASING KOUKI
DON'T TAKE IT TOO SERIOUSLY

Bounce
NEVER MIND
!
DRINK UP!
WE'RE HERE TO CELEBRATE YOU TWO TODAY!
Karaoke
WOW! YOU CAN REALLY KNOCK 'EM BACK!
TONIGHT'S TAB IS YOUR REWARD, SO THE MORE YOU DRINK, THE BETTER!!
THAT'S RIGHT! DON'T HOLD BACK!
YOU COULD STAND TO HOLD BACK A LITTLE, YOU LUSH!
Ooooh...
Chug

WHY ...?

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME AGAIN?

I'M SORRY..

THAT'S IT! I'M CUTTING YOU OFF UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!!

URK . YES

Kouki-san you really do have a good head for alcohol.

Yeah I guess so...

AH!?

MUTTER... MUTTER...

KOUKI-SAN, LOOK OUT...! IN FRONT OF...!

Huh?

EH?

UWAH!

AH!

WOOP!

...
SO SORRY..
I DIDN'T SEE IT.
It was on my left side.
KOUKI -SAN.
...YOU REALLY CAN'T SEE WELL WITH YOUR LEFT EYE
HEY!
I apologize didn't I?
IT'S KIND OF HARD TO SEE A SPIDER WEB, EVEN FOR PEOPLE WITH GOOD VISION!!
NO... I MEANT...
...USUALLY I DON'T NOTICE IT AT ALL
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAKING FUN OF ME.
DORK.
WHO WOULD JOKE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE...
I'm sorry.

I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE.
AND MY VISION GOT WORSE ALL OF A SUDDEN
IT WAS AN OPTIC NERVE DISEASE.
THERE WAS NO WAY TO FIX IT.
I HAD BEEN ACCEPTED FOR A JOB...
...AT A PRETTY BIG FILM STUDIO IN TOKYO, BUT...
HERE. WATER.
AH...
A... cold!
THANK YOU...
WELL, AS YOU MIGHT EXPECT...
...I WAS PRETTY DOWN IN THE DUMPS FOR A WHILE.

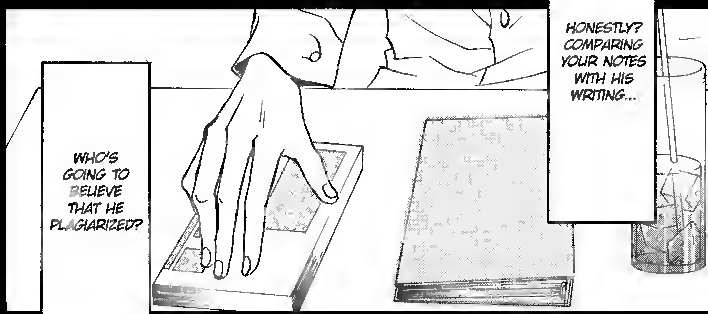
I SMASHED THE CAMERA THAT I'D WORKED MY ASS OFF TO GET.
...I TORE UP MY REFERENCE BOOKS
...AND ANYTHING THAT REMINDED ME OF FILMING
THEN...
...WHAT MADE YOU PICK IT UP AGAIN?
UMM...
KURUMI, ONE OF THE REGULARS AT MY PART-TIME JOB, MADE ME AN OFFER...
YOU KNOW, I'M THINKING ABOUT RUNNING A BROADCASTING STATION...

I WANT TO BE AN ANCHOR-WOMAN.
...BUT NO ONE WANTS TO HIRE ME. SO I'VE DECIDED TO START MY OWN.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST A DUMB QUEEN.
Ah ha ha!
Kyoutashi-kun said that he'd finance me.♡
Boyfriend
I HAD SWORN THAT I'D NEVER TOUCH A CAMERA AGAIN.
I didn't even think I could do it.
...BUT HE WAS SO PERSISTENT
Wait a Minute!
IT'S OK, ISN'T IT?
C'MON!
JUST TRY IT ONCE
I AGREED TO DO IT, THINKING THAT IT WOULDN'T LAST LONG.
IT'S LASTED LONGER THAN I EXPECTED
. AND
...AS I WAS DOING IT, I REMEMBERED...

WOW...
THAT'S AMAZING
...HOW MUCH I'D LIKED FILMING
SOME-DAY, I WONDER IF I...
...MIGHT BE ABLE TO PUT ALL THIS BEHIND ME, LIKE YOU DID...?
EVEN THOUGH I COULDN'T BE THE BEST
...I REALIZED THAT I COULD BE HAPPY JUST DOING THIS KIND OF WORK
WH...T HAPPENED IN TOKYO?

IN COLLEGE, MY SENPAI, WHO WAS IN THE SAME LITERARY CLUB—
...EARNED AN HONORABLE MENTION IN A LITERARY MAGAZINE.
—AN IDEA THAT I'D BEEN MULLING OVER FOR YEARS
BUT IT WAS...
!
HE STOLE YOUR IDEA?
YEAH...
...BUT...
...THAT'S NOT ALL.

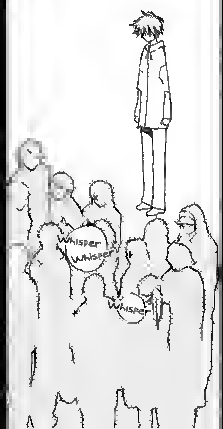
HE MADE IT INTO A BRILLIANTLY ENTER-TAINING PIECE OF WORK...
COMPARED TO MY CLUMSY STORY, WHICH I HAD REVISED OVER AND OVER..
IT WAS MORE THAN THE WORK THAT I'D WANTED TO WRITE.
...PLUGGING AWAY IN MY TINY STUDIO.
HE HAD TRANSFORMED IT INTO SOMETHING COMPLETELY HIS OWN.
I ASKED MY FRIEND FOR ADVICE.
I COULDN'T KEEP QUIET.
BUT THAT'S STILL PLAGIARISM.



EVEN MY FRIEND, WHO KNEW HOW MUCH EFFORT I'D PUT INTO THAT PIECE...

...

SOON, RUMORS SPREAD THAT I'D ACCUSED MY SENPAI OF PLAGIARISM.



YOU COULDN'T FULLY EXPRESS YOUR PRECIOUS IDE ...
WITH YOUR ABILITIES
IT'S TRUE THAT I READ YOUR NOTES
MY SENPAI KNEW WHAT EVERYONE IN THE CLUB WAS THINKING, I GUESS
HE DIDN'T EVEN BAT AN EYELASH WHEN I QUESTIONED HIM
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT ,
Smirk
Smirk
EVEN SUPPOSING IT'S TRUE, STILL —
YOU SHOULD BE THANKING ME.

...
FROM THAT POINT ON, I COULDN'T WRITE ANYMORE
HAVING LOST TO A PERSON LIKE HIM... I WAS DISGUSTED WITH MY OWN ABILITY
IT WAS PAINFUL EVEN BEING AT SCHOOL
I TOOK A LEAVE OF ABSENCE. I WENT BACK HOME
YOUR PARENTS' HOME?
YOU WENT BACK THERE, RIGHT?
MY FATHER IS A FAMOUS WRITER
WHAT!?
HE WAS ABSOLUTELY FURIOUS WHEN HE FOUND OUT THAT I RAN AWAY

I RESPECT MY FATHER
I TOTALLY AGREE WITH WHAT HE SAID, BUT...
I DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO FIGHT BACK AT THAT POINT.
I HAD LOST FAITH IN MY OWN TALENT.
IF YOU'RE A REAL WRITER, FIGHT FOR IT!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY PRIDE AS A WRITER?
ARE YOU GOING TO CRAWL INTO BED AND CRY?
YOU'RE JUST A WHIPPED CUR THAT WON'T STOP WHINING!
HMMM...
I RAN AWAY
THAT'S WHY...
...I LEFT HOME.

WHAT AN AWFUL STORY
HE'LL COME TO A BAD END, THAT GUY
ERR...?
DO YOU...
...REALLY THINK SO?
I SUPPOSE IT IS.
YEAH, SO?
IT IS AWFUL. ISN'T IT?
DID YOU JUST SAY...
...IT'S AN AWFUL STORY?

DRIP...
IT... IT REALLY IS...
IT IS AN AWFUL STORY!
WH-WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?
BUT...!
I CAN SAY THAT IT WAS AWFUL
DRIP
DRIP
Murmur
Murmur
Murmur
YEAH... IT IS.
IT IS AWFUL...
HUH?

WEEPING...
MY FATHER SCOLDED ME...
IT WAS BETTER FOR ME IF I DIDN'T GO AGAINST HIM. MY FRIEND SAID ALL THOSE THINGS BECAUSE HE WAS LOOKING OUT FOR ME
BECAUSE MY SENPAI HAD GOOD CONNEC-TIONS
...NOBODY EVER SAID IT WAS AWFUL.
DRIP...
DRIP...
THE TRUTH IS, I UNDER-STAND
THE REASON MY FRIEND SPOKE TO ME LIKE THAT WAS...
BECAUSE HE'S A STRICT MAN.
I'M A TIMID PERSON, AND HE SAID THOSE THINGS BECAUSE HE WANTED TO WHIP ME INTO SHAPE.
I UNDERSTAND THAT IN MY HEAD

BUT I JUST WANTED SOMEONE TO TELL ME THAT IT WAS AWFUL..!
I KNEW THERE WERE SOME PEOPLE IN THE CLUB WHO FELT SORRY FOR ME
THEY WERE JUST AFRAID OF MY SENPAI
I DIDN'T CARE IF I HAD TO GIVE UP WITHOUT A FIGHT
JUST ONE "GOSH, WHAT AN AWFUL EXPERIENCE"
I KNEW THAT. I KNEW ALL THAT BUT...
I-TA-RU...
IF JUST ONE PERSON HAD SAID THAT

Humph.
YOU'RE AN IDIOT.
ANYONE WHO HEARD THAT WOULD SAY, "IT'S AN AWFUL STORY"
KOU...?
DIDN'T YOU THINK THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU WERE WEIRD?
WHAT KIND OF A PERSON WOULD LISTEN TO ALL THAT AND NOT SAY STRAIGHT OUT, THAT IT'S AWFUL?
I don't believe them..!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THAT KIND OF CRAP! WORTHLESS MORONS...
Sniff
I'M GLAD YOU GOT OUT OF THERE.

THAT WAS A SMART CHOICE FOR SURE.
Um... Hmm
YOU THINK SO?
Sniff Sniff
SURE
THESE THINGS HAPPEN SOMETIMES. IT'S ALL RIGHT.
...TO JUST CUT YOUR LOSSES AND GET OUT.
AHH. .?
...
Wipe Wipe
NOTHING FOR IT..
SINCE IT'S LIKE THAT, YOU CAN STAY HERE A WHILE LONGER...
HUH?

YOU CAN STAY HERE WHILE YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY
JUST DO AS YOU LIKE
bbb
I'M SURE YOU MEANT TO FREELOAD FROM THE BEGINNING
IN EXCHANGE, HURRY UP AND FIND A JOB
KOU...
WE APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, BUT IT'S HARD TO LIVE WITHOUT ANY INCOME

Glomp
WHOA!
Kouki -San!
Cry!
WHAT THE HELL...?!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU SO MUCH...!
QUIT HANGING ALL OVER ME!
I GET IT ALREADY, SO GET OFF OF ME, ITARU!
BUT...?
Bawl
GET OFF
crying...

Market Street
I REALLY
ITARU-CHAN?
YOUR FACE.
WHAT HAPPENED? IT'S ALL PUFFY.
AH... MAYBE I DRANK TOO MUCH YESTERDAY?
Hum...
...MADE A SPECTACLE OF MYSELF...
Considering our first meeting, it's a little late for dignity but.
...
PLUS, I CRIED WAY TOO MUCH
Honestly All I do is cause trouble for Kouki-san
Hum...
BUT I FEEL...
...SO MUCH BETTER...

SO KIND.
KOUKI -SAN IS...
KURUMI -SAN..?
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT THE EVENT STARTS AT 10.00?
AH, YEAH!
YOU READY TO GO, KOUKI?
YEAH...
AH, I'M AVAILABLE TODAY
DO YOU WANT ME TO GO?
AHH...
I THINK WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT TODAY
Sorry
REALLY?
WE'RE LEAVING NOW.
TAKE CARE!

THEY GET ALONG WELL, AS USUAL...
WELL, IT SEEMS I WAS ABOUT TO GET IN THEIR WAY...
I GUESS THEY'D RATHER BE LEFT ALONE?
Snirk
Snirk
Snirk
HUH?
NOW, SUZUKI-SAN, NO NASTY SUSPICIONS
KURUMI-SAN HAS A DEVOTED BOYFRIEND!
You'll make Kyousuke-san cry.!
YEAH, BUT IT'S DIFFERENT FOR KOUKI, ISN'T IT?

BUT HE SAID THAT A LONG TIME AGO...
I WONDER IF HE STILL...?
KOUKI-san...
KOUKI LIKES KURUMI, RIGHT?
WELL, I'M NOT SURE...
BUT HE CAN BE VERY SINGLE-MINDED
THROB...
HUH?

!
THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
THIS IS BAD...
MY CHEST... HURTS.
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
Unrequited love. That hurts. Big-time.
It'd be kind of fun to see them hanging all over each other.
Sure? Suzuki-san!
END

Liberty, Liberty!

by Takanaga Hinako

~Chapter 4~

Scanner:
L La

Translator:
WellO

Proofreaders:
Sara Tanaquil & Jojomalone

Editor:
Ooka Yasumi

QCers:
Sara Tanaquil & Faye

#liquidpassion@irc.irchighway.net
Biblo Eros
HackTheMainstream.com

#dangerous-pleasure@irchighway.net
Dangerous Pleasure
DpScanlations.DeathsVerse.com

KU-RUMI-SAN IS TALKING ON THE PHONE
EH?
THAT'S FINE. I CAN FIT THAT IN MMM-HMM
ACT 4
I NEED TO GO. I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK.
SEE YA LATER. LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
Mmm..!
Smooch!!

BLUSH
AHH... WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME?
WAS THAT YOUR BOY-FRIEND?
Click
KYOUBASHI-SAN IS SO BUSY ALL THE TIME~~~♡
YEAH. WE HAVEN'T HAD A DATE IN THREE WEEKS.
SINCE KURUMI -SAN AND KYOUBASHI -SAN...

...ARE TOTALLY LOVE-LOVE NO MATTER WHO'S AROUND...
ITARU!
KOUKI-SAN MUST KNOW ABOUT THEM, TOO.
LET'S GO!
WHAT'S THE JOB TODAY?
Coming~!
WE'RE COVERING A NEWLY OPENED COMMUNITY CENTER.
SORRY, BUT YOU'LL BE FILLING IN AS A REPORTER TODAY.
KURUMI IS BUSY WITH ANOTHER JOB
HUH?

NO WAY! I CAN'T BE A REPORTER..!
DON'T WORRY YOU JUST NEED TO READ THE SCRIPT
I'm using a camcorder today so don't worry about NG's!
OH
YOU'RE OUR ODD JOB PERSON NOW
YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO HANDLE THIS KIND OF THING
IT'S ONLY A THREE MINUTE SPOT. JUST TELL YOURSELF THAT IT'S PRACTICE
Eh? So soon?
!
Stumble!
Ready? Action!

COMMUNITY CENT
STUTTER STUTTER
GOOD AFTER-NOON.
TODAY WE ARE H-HERE AT THE C-COMMUNITY CENTER THAT RECENTLY OPENED ON THE E-EAST SIDE
UNITY CENTER
THERE ARE VARIOUS FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR CITY RESIDENTS, SUCH AS A LARGE SAUNA, A RECREATION CENTER, AND SO ON...
SENIOR CITIZENS CAN USE...
THE CENTER FREE OF CHARGE...
ZOOOM...
UWA...!

HE'S WATCH -ING ME
OF COURSE
THAT'S HIS JOB
HOW- EVER,
HE'S LOOKING AT ME
SO SERIOUS -LY
WHOA~
IF HE KEEPS LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT
I...
...?

S...
SORRY
CRAP
I WAS STAR-ING...
?
WHAT?
OOPS!
!
ARE THERE SOME KANJI YOU CAN'T READ OR SOMETHING!?
WOW...
Stroke
Stroke
LOOK, YOUR HAIR IS MUSSED
OH WOWWWWW...
Ah-
Pat
Pat
YOU'RE ACTUALLY SWEATING...
COME ON, TAKE IT EASY

I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO BE AS GOOD AS KURUMI RIGHT OFF THE BAT.
SO RELAX.
THA-THUMP
!
HUH?
IF YOU...
YOU'R...
...COMPARE ME TO KURUMI-SAN, ALL OF A SUDDEN...
ERR?
I SAID THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT LIKE KURUMI.
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
AHHH...
I'M SORRY.

I'LL MAKE YOU LOOK NICE...
...SO TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND HIT IT.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THERE ARE BUTTER-FLIES IN MY STOMACH
THERE, THAT'S BETTER ISN'T IT?
LET'S MOVE ON TO THE NEXT PLACE
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

LOOKS LIKE I REALLY HAVE..

OH!

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!

...FALLEN COMPLETELY IN LOVE WITH KOUKI-SAN

WHAT IS IT?

JUST COME OVER HERE AND LOOK THROUGH THE LENS.

IT LOOKS FUNNY FROM THIS ANGLE.

SEE?

DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE A GOOFY DIME-STORE ROBOT?

AH? IT REALLY DOES!

THAT'S HILARIOUS!

Ah Ha Ha Ha Ha

WHO CAME UP WITH THAT DESIGN?

They'll be a total laughing stock!

I THINK KOUKI-SAN IS AMAZING.
HE ALWAYS TAKES HIS WORK SERIOUS -LY...
BUT LOOKS LIKE HE'S ENJOYING IT.
I CAN'T BE LIKE HIM...
...PICKING UP SOMETHING THAT I ONCE FAILED AT
HE'S SUCH A STRONG PERSON
I...
HAS THERE EVER BEEN A TIME WHEN I TRULY ENJOYED WRITING?

I ALWAYS FELT LIKE I WAS RUSHING IT.
KOUKI SAN...
...PROBABLY KNOWS A LOT OF THINGS THAT I DON'T KNOW.
HE'S AN ADULT.
Sigh...
AH...
IT NEVER ENDS.
Thud
Murmur
I LIKE HIM

WHAT AM I GONNA DO..?
..LIKE HIM
I REALLY
Ke-click
AH?
ITARU -CHAN?
Startle
AH!
Rattle
YOU'RE STILL HERE?
I CAME TO LOCK THE DOORS
AHH...
I WANTED TO FINISH WRITING IN THE LOGBOOK BEFORE I WENT HOME

I'LL LOCK UP.
I'M ALMOST DONE.
AHH?
YOU CAN DO THAT TOMORROW.
I'M KIND OF IN A HURRY...
ARE YOU SURE? I'D APPRECIATE IT!
YOU HAVE A DATE, RIGHT? MUST BE NICE...
THANKS!
SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!
GOOD NIGHT!
KURUMI -SAN.

NO WONDER..
KOUKI -SAN LIKES KURUMI -SAN.
EVEN I THINK KURUMI -SAN IS CUTE. .. AND COOL.
WHETHER IT'S LOVE OR WORK...
HE'S ALWAYS SO OPTIMISTIC AND FULL OF ENERGY.
I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO COMPETE
BUT I
WANT KOUKI-SAN TO LOOK AT ME

I WANT TO BECOME SOMEONE I CAN BE PROUD OF
I'LL START WITH WHAT I CAN DO
LITTLE BY LITTLE
FIRST OFF...
I SHOULD START LOOKING FOR A JOB...
Stretch
ALL RIGHT!
I can do it!
END

Liberty Liberty!

by Takanaga Hinako

~Chapter 5~

Scanner:
[illegible]

Translator:
WellO

Proofreaders:
Sara Tanaquil

Editor:
Ookami Asumi

#liquidpassion@irc.irchighway.net
Biblo Eros
HackTheMainstream.com

#dangerous-pleasure@irchighway.net
Dangerous Pleasure
DpScanlations.DeathsVerse.com

ACT
5

SORRY!
WELL THEN, I'M OFF!
MARKET
YES, OF COURSE!
Hustle
Bustle
Hustle
...?
Bustle
GOOD LUCK!
Wave
Wave

WHERE'S HE GOING IN SUCH A HURRY?
HE SAID HE HAD A JOB INTERVIEW
REALLY?
SO HE'S FINALLY DECIDED TO PAY US BACK?
I WAS JUST GETTING TO KNOW HIM, TOO
I'LL MISS HIM!
ME, TOO
Sigh
HE HELPED US OUT QUITE A BIT.
It'll be a big loss
THE OTHER DAY...

I ASKED HIM TO WRITE A SCRIPT FOR A MAGAZINE AD
Sorry! You just need to get the basic message across.
Ah. I can give it a try..?
FRANKLY, I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO GO BACK AND REVISE IT...
IS THAT SO?
...BUT IT WAS EASY TO READ AND PRETTY WELL DONE
DID ITARU-CHAN WRITE PROFESSIONALLY BEFORE, BY ANY CHANCE?
He didn't seem to be an amateur
WELL...
HMM...
I don't know all the details, ...HE SAID THAT HE'D MAJORED IN LITERATURE IN COLLEGE.
WITH ALL THE IDIOTS WE'VE GOT WORKING HERE, SOMEONE WHO CAN WRITE WELL WOULD BE VERY VALUABLE TO US
CAN'T BE HELPED. WE'RE TOO POOR TO HIRE HIM
Wonder if he would continue working for us on the side?
ANYWAY, THE REASON HE'S LOOKING FOR A JOB IN THE FIRST PLACE IS SO HE CAN PAY US BACK
What is we dear his debt?
Out of the ques-tion!

Rustle
WHOA!
I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT YOU'D BOUGHT ANOTHER BIG BUNCH OF 'EMPLOYMENT' BROCHURES.
Is that all of them?
I WANT TO FIND AS GOOD A PLACE AS POSSIBLE
I grabbed all the ones I could find!
HOW WAS THE PLACE YOU WENT TO TODAY?
Hmmm...
IT SEEMED PRETTY COMPETITIVE

WAITERS WHO WORK THE EVENING SHIFT GET PAID BETTER!
AND THEY HOURS ARE FLEXIBLE!
ALL THE POSITIONS YOU MARKED ARE FOR WAITERS?
I MIGHT BE ABLE TO KEEP WORKING AT THE TV STATION DURING THE DAY
WHAT...? YOU PLAN TO CONTINUE WORKING AT THE STATION?
UH ..
IS THAT BAD?
NAH..
Grin
KURUMI WILL BE HAPPY.

HUH?
KURUMI-SAN...
...WILL?
TODAY...
Heh
...KURUMI WAS SINGING YOUR PRAISES
HE ASKED YOU TO WRITE A SCRIPT THE OTHER DAY, DIDN'T HE?
HE SAID IT WAS REALLY HELPFUL AND VERY WELL WRITTEN.
OH, HMM...
BUT WHAT DOES...
I'M GLAD...
...THAT HE LIKED IT.
EVERY-ONE'S BEEN SURPRISED THAT YOU'VE BEEN SUCH AN UNEXPECTEDLY BIG HELP.
...KOUKI-SAN THINK ABOUT IT...?
You're so mean!

WILL HE MISS ME EVEN A LITTLE BIT, IF I'M NOT AROUND?
YOU HAVE TALENT...
...YOU COULD GET A PROFESSIONAL JOB
HE'S BEEN KIND ENOUGH TO LET ME STAY WITH HIM, AND YET I KEEP THINKING ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT
WOULDN'T THAT BE BETTER?
MAYBE I'M THE ONE THAT LIKES HIM TOO MUCH?
NAH... I DON'T HAVE ANY REAL EXPERIENCE, ...AND BE-SIDES...
...FOR THE TIME BEING...
...IT MIGHT BE BETTER FOR ME TO DO SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT

YOU THINK SO?
ANYWAY... WORK HARD SO YOU CAN PAY US BACK THE 200 000 YEN ASAP!
I KNOW THAT!
I KNOW IT'S NO BIG THING, BUT...
AH! IT'S THE AD!
...I'M HAPPY THAT SOMETHING I DID MET WITH APPROVAL...
How about we pay him just a little bit?
No way! Don't spoil him!
You can come here during the day? That's great!
Yeah!
HAVING A PLACE WHERE I FEEL WELCOME...

...IS PROBABLY WHAT I NEED THE MOST RIGHT NOW.
EXCUSE ME CAN YOU TAKE OUR ORDER?
ONE MORE, PLEASE?
YES! I'LL BE WITH YOU SHORTLY!
MORE WATER, PLEASE?
AND THEN
WHEN'S THAT SALAD COMING?
AH-HA-HA-HAA!
...THAT SO?
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN...
Welcome!
WHOA!
SO BUSY!
Coming right up!
Let's see, one lemon
...AND I'LL PAY BACK MY DEBT
Actually, I feel even better than before!
AH, I'M DOING PRETTY WELL!
I feel kinda guilty.
ITARU-CHAN, AREN'T YOU TIRED, WORKING DAY AND NIGHT?

IT'S GOOD TO WORK HARD...
...BUT DON'T OVER-DO IT!
UH, YEAH!
IF I CAN JUST GET TO THE POINT WHERE I CAN FACE KOUKI-SAN...
...WITHOUT FEELING INFERIOR...
KOUKI-SAN WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME!
I'll work even harder!

PHEW
SO TIRED...
FLOOOM
It was extra hard today
THEY NEED TO PAY ME MORE ON THE WEEKENDS.
Phew
SO SLEEPY
EH?
CLANK
I'M LEAVING.
THANKS FOR TODAY.
HUH?
OK
AH!
I'LL BORROW THIS FOR A WHILE.

KURUMI-SAN?
ASK KOMAGOME-KUN ABOUT THE REST
SURE
WHY IS HE HERE?
AH... I'M SURE IT'S RELATED TO WORK.
I'll walk you there
TWA-THUMP
TWA-THUMP
BESIDES, THEY'RE FRIENDS, SO IT'S NO BIG DEAL FOR HIM TO BE HERE.
WHOAAA!
AH?
AH!
AH...

UM...
THERE'S NO REASON FOR ME TO BE HIDING, IS THERE?
What am I doing? Really.
ERR!
AHH! I TOTALLY FORGOT!
HM?
KYOU-BASHI-KUN SAID...
OH...
BLAH-BLAH!
THEY LOOK SO GOOD TOGETHER
BLAH-BLAH...
BLAH

WHY NOT?
FLINCH
!?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHY NOT?
DON'T MIX YOUR PERSONAL LIFE WITH WORK
I DON'T LIKE KYOU-BASHI STEERING WORK IN OUR DIRECTION!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
HE GIVES US WORK BECAUSE WE'RE GOOD
IT'S JUST A JOB
It fits well, too!
DON'T SAY SUCH A STUPID THING!
DO YOU THINK IT'S RIGHT FOR A COMPANY PRESIDENT TO GIVE WORK TO HIS LOVER?!
FUME
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MIXES UP HIS WORK AND HIS PERSONAL LIFE!

SIZZLE
HEY, KURUMI...
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW INSENSITIVE YOU ARE?
I...
EH...?

Whoa!
POW!
KYAH!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
YOU BASTARD!
MY BODY BELONGS TO KYOUBASHI-KUN FROM HEAD TO TOE!
Ugh!
Blood
YOU DIDN'T HAFTA HIT ME SO HARD!
I WAS JOKING. DON'T BE SO STINGY OVER A LITTLE KISS OR TWO
You dork. Have to get so mad
NO WAY!
NEVER! NOT EVEN AS A JOKE!
THUD
THUD

Oops...
WELL, I DID, BUT...
IT'S AN AFFILIATED COMPANY. DOESN'T THAT COUNT AS AN EXCEPTION?
Ow!
ANYHOW, WHEN YOU STARTED THIS COMPANY...
...DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT YOU WOULDN'T DEPEND ON KYOUBASHI FOR ANYTHING BEYOND THE INITIAL INVESTMENT?
Except for emergencies
YOU PROMISED ME THAT WHEN I AGREED TO WORK.
I...
...GAVE YOU UP.
...A LONG TIME AGO, BUT...
...IF YOU'RE GOING TO BREAK YOUR PROMISE,
...I MIGHT TRY TO KISS YOU AGAIN.

FINE. CAN'T BE HELPED. I'LL GIVE IT TO SOMEONE ELSE.
KYOUBASHI -KUN WILL UNDERSTAND.
I'm leaving
HEY, I'LL WALK YOU...?
NO, THANKS! IT'S NOT THAT LATE,
...AND I'M AFRAID YOU'LL TRY TO KISS ME AGAIN.
Pitter
Patter
AS IF I WOULD! DUMB-ASS.
YEAH, YEAH. SEE YOU TO-MORROW.
Pitter
Patter
Pitter
Patter
Humph!
EXCUSE ME...?
FLASH

ITA
ITARU?!
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THERE?
ER..
SINCE THE BEGIN-NING, I GUESS
...!
CHOKE
WOBBLE
AH.. CRAP
HOW TOTALLY UNCOOL
UM
KOUKI-SAN?

AUGH
How can he open up old wounds so tactlessly?
EH?!
YOU STILL LIKE... KURUMI -SAN?
KOUKI-SAN?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR WHAT WE WERE JUST SAYING?
THAT'S ANCIENT HISTORY!
IS THAT SO?
BUT EVERYONE AT WORK THINKS THAT YOU STILL LIKE HIM
DON'T LISTEN TO THOSE RUMORS!
Wait There are rumors?
BUT BE-FORE
IT LOOKED MORE LIKE

...HE STILL REALLY,
REALLY LIKES KURUMI-SAN
A LOT
BUT I...
IS IT POINTLESS FOR ME TO LIKE HIM?
...
MUTTER MUTTER
Suzuki-san and his friends just love to gossip...
Oh. Hell...
UM...
WHAT NOW?
CLANK

KOUKI-SAN...
DO YOU SWING... BOTH WAYS?
EHH
?
WHAT DID YOU JUST...?
HUH?
WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?
WELL, BECAUSE...
KURUMI-SAN IS A MAN, MORE OR LESS
EH
?
NAH...
KURUMI IS PRACTICALLY A WOMAN, DON'T YOU THINK...?
IS...
...THAT SO?
DEFLATED
HMM...
?
?
?
...?
ITARU...
...WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

Humph!
AN ADULT KNOWS TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY.
EVERYONE HAS ONE OR TWO THINGS IN THEIR PAST THEY DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT.
Click
IF YOU'RE JUST ASKING OUT OF VULGAR CURIOSITY, THEN FORGET IT.
OH--!
?
...I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALREADY OVER--
--KURUMI-SAN, BUT...
...EARLIER, YOU... WELL, IT SEEMED LIKE YOU STILL LIKED HIM. I WAS JUST ...SURPRISED.
ANYWAY, I'M SORRY!
WHAT?

EH...
WHAT?
NO!
THE ONE I LIKE IS KOUKI-SAN!
IS THAT WHY...?
DO YOU LIKE KURUMI?
Grin
OH...? COULD IT BE THAT YOU...?
HUH?

WHAT...?
DROP
UWAAH
!
WAAAAAAH!!
WAAWAAH
!!
WH-
YOU...
WHAT?
Whoa...!
WHAT DID YOU...?
WHAT AM I DOING ...!?!
I said it!

...WHOA...
THAT WAS UNEXPECTED.
Er... Wait a sec, hang on...?
STUPID...!
STUPID...!
STUPID...!
STUPID...!
STUPID ME...!
AH, SO THAT'S WHY...
...YOU ASKED ME IF I LIKE MEN.
HM...
PUFF PUFF
UH... I...
ACTUAL-LY...
I WAS PLANNING TO TELL YOU ONCE I COULD SUPPORT MYSELF

I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I HEARD THAT KOUKI-SAN LIKED KURUMI-SAN.
KURUMI-SAN HAS A BOYFRIEND SO...
...BUT THEY ALSO S'D THAT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
...
UGH... I...
...I ASSUMED THAT YOU TWO WERE JUST FRIENDS NOW.
...I'M NOT SAYING THIS WELL...
I'M...
I'M A GUY, BUT...
...WHAT DO I DO?
I KNOW I CAN'T TAKE KURUMI-SAN'S PLACE, BUT.
...COMPLETELY OPPOSED TO THAT SORT OF THING. I GUESS I GOT MY HOPES UP TOO MUCH.
...SINCE YOU LIKED KURUMI-SAN, I FIGURED THAT YOU WEREN'T...

IS THERE ANY WAY?
COULD YOU CONSIDER ME JUST A LITTLE?
DO I NOT HAVE ANY CHANCE AT ALL?
AH...
YOU KNOW
SHUSH
DO YOU...
REALLY LIKE ME TH T WAY?
HUH?

YOU... RIGHT NOW, I'M THE ONLY PERSON YOU CAN RELY ON...
...YOU MIGHT JUST BE CONFUSED.
THAT'S NOT...!
THINK IT OVER CALMLY.

AH..?
I..
TA..
RU...?
I...
...REALLY
LIKE YOU.
I LIKE YOU.
REALLY
AND
TRULY
...IN
"THAT"
WAY.

Rise
KOUKI-SAN?
UH, UM..?
UH, YEAH..
AH, CRAP.
WHAT IN THE WORLD AM I DOING?
SLAM!
I'M GOING OUT FOR SOME FRESH AIR
END

Liberty, Liberty!

by Takanaga Hinako

~Chapter 6~

Scanner:
[illegible]
Translator:
WellO
Proofreaders:
Sara Tanaquil
Editor:
Ookami Asumi

#liquidpassion@irc.irchighway.net
Biblo Eros
HackTheMainstream.com

Dangerous Pleasure
DpScanlations.DeathsVeri.com

Act
6

KOUKI.
HUH?
WHY HAVE YOU BEEN SLEEPING HERE RECENTLY?
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN SO BUSY.
YOU'RE SO LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A DEDICATED EMPLOYEE.
Go ahead, praise me!
Bustle Bustle
GOOD MORNING!
YOU'RE SO EASY TO READ.
HUH? What..?
AH! HI, ITARU!
RIGHT
WELL, I'M GOING OUT ON ASSIGNMENT.
SO OBVIOUS
Oh, shut up!

Wilt
AH!
KOUKI-SAN.
SEE YOU LATER, ITARU.
DON'T FORGET TO LOCK THE DOORS WHILE I'M OUT.
...
ITARU, WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED?
DO YOU MIND TALKING ABOUT IT?
I can't take this anymore
UH...
UM...
...
WELL...
What should I do?!

Whoa...!
KOUKI?
YOU...
KISSED...
YEAH
I DID
I confessed without meaning to
ITARU-CHAN,
YOU LIKE...
KOUKI?
UH...
YEAH
Slash
GRAB
!?
FOR GOODNESS SAKE,
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO BEFORE!

Pat
Pat
Pat
Pat
Aww!
SILLY! YOU LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!
I'VE KNOWN HIM FOR A LONG TIME, SO I KNOW HIS TYPE VERY WELL
SO THAT'S IT!♡
You like Kouki, huh?
EH...
UM...
OKAY.
ALL RIIIGHT! I'M FIRED UP!
Likes other's love stories.
SO THAT'S WHY KOUKI RAN OUT LIKE THAT?
!?
I'm surprised... Kurumi-san took it so well!
HE'S SO...
...AWK-WARD!
JUST LIKE A KID.
BUT THERE'S NO CHANCE FOR ME.
HE'S BEEN HIDING FROM ME.
ANYWAY, WE'RE BOTH GUYS
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, ITARU-CHAN?!

EH? BUT WASN'T THAT...
IT'LL ALL WORK OUT IF YOU JUST DO YOUR BEST.
KOUKI HASN'T HAD A GIRLFRIEND IN YEARS
HUH?
...GET OVER YOU?
...BECAUSE HE COULDN'T...
UH...
HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH A COWARDLY THING...?
...IN FRONT OF ME, KURUMI, WHO WAS ONCE A MAN?
Oh yeah, I kept forgetting this part.
...SAW YOU TWO IN FRONT OF KOUKI-SAN'S HOUSE THE OTHER DAY.
I...
I heard rumors, too.
WHO...?
WHAT?
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
AH.
SILLY, THAT WAS...
...THAT WAS JUST A JOKE!
IT'S A BAD HABIT OF HIS.
YOU MAY THINK THAT, KURUMI-SAN...

...BUT KOUKI-SAN DOESN'T SEE IT THAT WAY.
TRUTH-FULLY,
I WISH I WERE MORE LIKE YOU
...!
NO, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG
Um, how should I put this?
...?
I'M BACK!
Huh?
MARKET ST
EH?!
UMM...
THERE'S, SOMETHING I WANT TO TRY...

WELCOME BACK, KOUKI!
♡
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
WELL,
ITARU-CHAN SAID HE WANTED TO TRY ON SOME MAKE-UP
Right?
Yeah!
LOOK, AT HIM!
Kya!
Kya!
ISN'T HE CUTE?
Drip

HE DID.
ITARU
...REALLY SAID THAT?
IT REALLY DOES SUIT HIM. WITH HIS SMOOTH SKIN AND BIG EYES...
MAKE-UP LOOKS BEAUTIFUL ON HIM...
Should we put his picture in our company newsletter?
OH, WHAT A NICE SCARF!
Let's use it! ♥
HOW ABOUT PINK EYE SHADOW?
Pink
AHHH! HE'S SO CUTE!♡
RE-
REAL-LY?
ITARU! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING!?!

!
SHEVE
Look! Look!
COME ON, YOU HAVE TO AGREE
ISN'T HE ADORABLE?
Urk
!?
AH..
AH..? HE IS A LITTLE CU..
!
Ah...
Do you like it?
HOW DO I LOOK?
EEEK!
Not ME, too!
SNAP OUT OF IT!
WHAM
UWAH!

I JUST...
...ASKED KURUMI-SAN FOR SOME ADVICE.
KURUMI-SAN WAS ORIGINALLY A MAN...
...AND HE SEEMS TO KNOW YOU BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE.
Anyway I'm glad you're coming back home.
because I'm not sure what you'll do if I leave you alone~!
WHAT KIND OF ADVICE WAS THAT?!!
Kurumi, of all people...!
ARE YOU CRAZY?
HE WAS JUST MAKING FUN OF YOU!
HELL NO...!
HMM... BUT DIDN'T I LOOK KIND OF PRETTY?
EL?
I DON'T CARE FOR CROSS-DRESSERS!
DISAPPOINTED
OH... REALLY...?
And I was so set on trying something new.

ALWAYS
...KURUMI, KURUMI...
...WANTED TO BE MORE LIKE KURUMI-SAN
THAT'S NOT IT. I JUST...
Open
HONESTLY
ITARU,
YOU...
SLAM
Close
!?
BAM

UH...
WH-
...WHAT IS IT?
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.
ALWAYS KURUMI, KURUMI...
YOU WANT TO BE LIKE KURUMI THAT BAD?
ERR...
BECAUSE...
...KURUMI-SAN IS ..
REALLY COOL
?
?
CLOSER
HMM...
IN THAT CASE...

IF I ASKED YOU TO BE KURUMI'S REPLACEMENT
—WOULD YOU DO IT?
!
HUH? WHA-
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
WHAT DO I MEAN?
I MEAN EXACTLY WHAT I SAID
IF I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH KURUMI ALL THIS TIME LIKE YOU KEEP SAYING
DON'T YOU FEEL JUST A LITTLE SORRY FOR ME?

ARE YOU KIDDING ME...?!
ER...
UM...
I CAN'T BELIEVE KOUKI-SAN WOULD DO SUCH A THING!
WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS THIS!?!
SO...
HOW ABOUT YOU TAKE HIS PLACE?
French
Caress
WELL...?
REPLACE KURUMI-SAN...?
I DON'T LIKE THIS!
Squeeze

I DON'T LIKE THIS, BUT...
I DON'T LIKE THIS!
ITARU?
KOUKI-SAN'S HAND...
AH..
...IT'S BIG.
IT FEELS... GOOD.
ALL-
I WANT HIM TO KEEP TOUCHING ME.
...ALRIGHT.
WHAT?

I DON'T CARE...
...WHAT THE REASON IS.
I DON'T MIND.
I'LL TAKE ANY OPPORTUNITY.
IF THERE'S EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE..
...THAT SOME DAY...
...YOU CAN ACCEPT ME.
!
ID...
WHAP
!?
EH--?
IDIOT!
YOU SHOULD HAVE SLAPPED ME!
BE MAD AT ME!
YOU'RE HOPE-LESS

I WAS JOKING
LET'S STOP...
Tears welling
HUH!?!
Drip
Drip..
Drip
Drip..
Crap! He's CRYING!?!
WHAT THE HELL...?
IT'S NOTHING TO CRY ABOUT!
B-BUT...?
WHAA-?!
SOB
SOB
SOB

I KN-KNOW...
...I CAN'T TAKE KURUMI-SAN'S PLACE.
EH?
I KNOW THAT, BUT...
...YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE MADE FUN OF ME LIKE THAT.
NO! THAT'S NOT...!
I WASN'T TRYING TO...!
Ah damn it..!
I don't think you take it THAT way!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
I DON'T THINK ABOUT KURUMI THAT WAY ANY MORE,
BUT I GOT SO SICK OF YOU SAYING "KURUMI, KURUMI"...
...I THOUGHT THAT IF I SCARED YOU A LITTLE, YOU MIGHT STOP.
...

I'M REALLY SORRY!
AH DAMN IT!
Pat
THAT WAS A MEAN JOKE
FORGIVE ME!
PLEASE?
Gently
I-
ITARU?
What are you doing?
caress

HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN, I WONDER...?

...SINCE SOMEONE OFFERED ME THEIR FEELINGS SO OPENLY?

FOR SO LONG, I'VE ONLY HAD ONE-SIDED FEELINGS FOR OTHER PEOPLE.

JUST THE THOUGHT THAT YOU'RE WATCHING ME...
...GIVES ME STRENGTH.
I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN HOW GOOD IT FEELS...
...
...TO BE LOVED.
KOU...?

PHONE-CALL
HUH?
UH!
RIIING!
RIIING!
ERR...
AH...
RIIING!
RIIING!
JUST NOW
SOMEHOW
YES?
HELLO?
YES!
SO CLOSE!
STUPID PHONE!
DAMN!
I'LL SMASH IT!
HE'S HERE, BUT...
HUH? YEAH...

ITARU,
IT'S FOR YOU.
HUH?
FOR ME?
MARKET ST
WHAT?!
YOU WON A SCREENPLAY AWARD?!
FROM F-TV*?!
UH
YES
SOMEHOW
*Possibly Fuji TV

WOW!
SINCE WHEN WERE YOU WORKING ON A SCREEN-PLAY?
WOW!
WOW!
AWESOME!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOUR WRITING WAS GOOD BUT...
WHY THE BIG SECRET?
I'll be stuck in the middle of the night, but still...
BUT, IT'S GOING TO BE MADE INTO A DRAMA, RIGHT?
JUST A MINOR ONE.
OH, BUT IT'S NOT THE FIRST PRIZE!
DIDN'T WANT TO WRITE FOR A LITTLE WHILE?
I THOUGHT YOU...
DID YOU KNOW, KOUKI?
NOT AT ALL.
I KNEW HE WAS WORKING HARD AT ALL HIS PART-TIME JOBS, BUT...
...
A screenplay instead of a novel
I THOUGHT THAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO WRITE...
...IF I CHANGED MEDIA.

I'm going then!
Do your best!
ITARU-CHAN HAS REALLY CHANGED A LOT
HUH?
GOOD LUCK!
YOU NEED TO MEET WITH THEM THIS AFTERNOON, RIGHT?
THANKS!
HE WAS SO DOWN WHEN HE FIRST GOT HERE.
HIS ATTITUDE HAS GOTTEN MORE POSITIVE, DON'T YOU THINK?
HE LOOKS MORE CONFIDENT.

...I GUESS HE SNAPPED OUT OF IT.
I KNOW HE WENT THROUGH A LOT IN TOKYO..
BUT NOW THAT HE'S BEGUN WRITING AGAIN...
HE'S IN LOVE, TOO.
RIGHT?
WHAT?
Ha!
Ha!
...LIKE ITARU-CHAN.
HOW MANY MORE YEARS...
..DO YOU PLAN TO BE ALONE?
IT'S NOT LIKE I PLANNED TO BE SINGLE...
...IT JUST TURNED OUT THIS WAY.
What a waste. And I'm such a catch, too

YOU KNOW, KOUKI...
YOU COULD LEARN SOMETHING FROM ITARU
ISN'T IT TIME YOU MOVED ON...?
I CAN'T SLEEP AT NIGHT FROM WORRYING ABOUT YOU.
As a friend, I mean.
Who's my friend-?!
DON'T WORRY.
I'VE ALREADY STARTED MOVING ON.
...!
REALLY?
Let's get back to work.
MORE OR LESS.
IS THAT SO?
I'M GLAD.

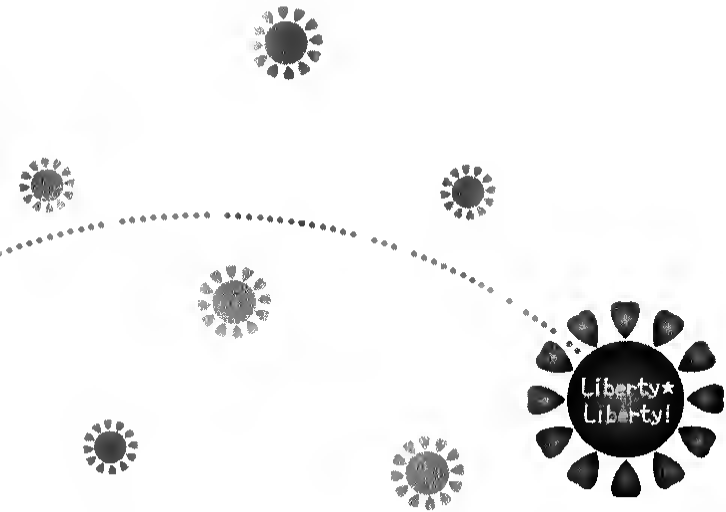
UM...
SO...
I HAD THE PRELIMINARY MEETING WITH THEM
ONE STEP FORWARD...
JUST PUT ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER.
THE REASON I HADN'T MOVED ON WASN'T THAT I COULDN'T TAKE THE FIRST STEP
OH?
IT'S NOT MUCH, BUT...
...THERE'S SOME PRIZE MONEY.
THAT'S GOOD.
UM, SO...
...THE MONEY...

PLEASE GIVE ME SOME MORE TIME...
...TO PAY YOU BACK FOR THE CAMERA!
EVEN IF I ADD MY PART-TIME SALARY...
...IT WAS BECAUSE I KEPT WALKING IN PLACE.
...ONCE I PAY FOR MY OWN PLACE TO LEAVE HERE...
I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING LEFT
WHY NOT JUST PAY YOUR DEBT SINCE YOU HAVE THE MONEY?
THAT'S NOT ACCEPT-ABLE.
...THAT'S OKAY.
WELL,
how could you...?
...I NEED TO MOVE OUT FIRST!
don't have enough money
EH. ! BUT...

EH?
JUST ONE STEP...
ONE STEP FORWARD...
I TOLD YOU...
...IT'S FINE.
YOU CAN STAY HERE
JUST DOING THIS...
HUH?
...I FEEL A LITTLE BETTER.

HONESTLY.
KOUKI-SAN!
I DON'T HAVE TO MOVE OUT?
REALLY?
ARE YOU SURE?
JEEZ, YOU'RE NOISY!
I'M SAYING YOU NEED TO PAY US BACK FOR THE CAMERA FIRST!
I CAN GO ANYWHERE...
...MOVING FORWARD, ONE STEP AT A TIME.
END

Liberty★
Liberty!


Liberty★
Liberty!

Liberty Liberty!

by Takanaga Hinako

~Omake~

SCANNER:
[illegible]

TRANSLATOR:
WE O

PROOFREADERS:
SARA TANAQUIL

EDITOR:
OOKAMI ASUMI

#LIQUIDPASSION@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

BIBLO EROS
HACKTHEMAINSTREAM.COM

DANGEROUS PLEASURE
DPSCANLATIONS.DEATHSVERI.GO.COM

YES?
ITARU-CHAN! ITARU-CHAN!
Peep
COME HERE FOR A SEC
Timing
Liberty! Liberty!
~ Omake ~
WHAT IS IT?
Whispering
HOW'VE THINGS BEEN, RECENTLY?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
COME ON, YOU KNOW...!
Stop Pretending!

Ho
Ho
Ho
IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE YOU GUYS OFFICIALLY STARTED LIVING TOGETHER..
...I'M JUST WONDERING HOW FAR YOU'VE GOTTEN?
Pit-a-pat!
EH...? IT'S JUST THE SAME AS BEFORE.
NOT MUCH PROGRESS SO FAR.
WHAT?
EVEN THOUGH...
...YOU'RE LIVING TOGETHER?
YEAH..
DIDN'T YOU CONFESS TO HIM?
YEAH..
NOTHING?!
NO..
...
KURUMI-SAN! PLEASE, DON'T!
Dash
Dash
Dash
THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE! I'M GOING TO GO BEAT SOME SENSE INTO HIM!
KURUMI LIT A FIRE UNDER BOTH OF US.
KOUKI, YOU'RE PATHETIC!
UNACCEPTABLE!
INTOLERABLE!
INTOLERABLE!
AND YOU, ITARU-CHAN, YOU SHOULD BE MORE AGGRESSIVE!

This cable TV network pays a lot of attention to special programs.
They really do!
...BUT IF YOU ASK ME...
...I'M JUST SO HAPPY TO BE LIVING WITH KOUKI-SAN...
...I'M NOT IN ANY HURRY.
I'd be nice if our company spent a bit more on programs like this!
...
ACTUALLY...
I DIDN'T MENTION IT TO KURUMI-SAN, BUT...
...A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO, JUST ONCE...
...JUST ONCE...

...HE...
...KISSED ME.
I WAS SO STUNNED, I DROPPED THE COFFEE I HELD.
AH!
TWUNK
SPILL
SORRY!
IT- IT'S OK
Oh, the coffee!!

WHAT'S WITH YOU? DON'T BE SO CLINGY
IT'S TOO HOT...
THUD
Lean
AND SO...
...I THOUGHT I COULD EXPECT MORE, BUT...
What an extreme guy!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO MOVE THAT FAR AWAY!
I...
Nervous
DON'T REALLY GET IT
?

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO JUDGE THE APPROPRIATE DISTANCE.
YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON I'VE EVER MET THAT SAYS EXACTLY WHAT THEY'RE FEELING.

DISTANCE...?

NO! NO! NO!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
EHHH!
KOUKI-SAN, YOU WANT ME TO KEEP MY DISTANCE FROM YOU?
DAMN IT...
GRAB
!

HUH?
UM...
...SURE,
BUT...
CAN I GO AT MY OWN PACE?
!
AH...?
MM...
ERR...

DOES THIS MEAN...
...THAT YOU LIKE ME, KOUKI-SAN?
UM...
DOES THIS...
...!
PSHH
THERE YOU GO AGAIN THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
SIGH...
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH YOU?

KOU...
KOUKI!
I'M SORRY, BUT CAN YOU EDIT THIS VIDEO BY TONIGHT...!
AHH...?!
I'D NEVER BEFORE SEEN KOUKI-SAN...
...REFUSE TO FORGIVE KURUMI-SAN DESPITE HIS SINCERE APOLOGIES.
I...
...WAS KIND OF HAPPY TO SEE THAT SIDE OF KOUKI-SAN, BUT STILL...
I'm sorry!
I'm sorry!
What should I do?
Aww..!
...

Afterwords

あとがき

※ Hello, everyone. This is Hinako Takanaga. I'm pleased to meet you all. To those of you who have read my previous works, thank you for reading this one too. This is my second book from *Gentosha Comics*. Thank you so much.

※ I thought that I had come up with this story pretty recently, but when I compared my drawings to old scripts, I realized that I had actually come up with this a while ago. Nowadays, I have no sense of time. That's not good.

※ I'll stop beating around the bush. Actually, I had made up my mind to do something different when I devised the plot. I thought, *"Let's draw a really cool seme!"* If you've read my other manga, you know that all of the semes in my manga fall deeply in love with the ukes. Even though I personally like that kind of story, I was determined to show that I can draw different things. But one of my schoolmates sneered at me and said that it wouldn't be possible. *"I'll buy you a whole cake if you manage to pull it off."* I was soooo motivated.

✱ I declared to my editor, "I'll draw a cool seme! I'll put a lot of effort into making a script!!!" In the complete script, *from act 1 the seme was totally into the uke*. Eh...? That's odd... I drew it based on my idea, but how come...? My friend said, "Tsk, tsk, tsk. I'll try to be generous 'cause it's only act 1." and tried to console me. Darn. I don't need your pity! Since then, Kouki got worse and worse... Well, I thought Kouki was better than other semes but I still haven't gotten a cake from my friend. Is that her answer?

✱ There's a back story like that behind it, but I still really enjoyed drawing this one. (Is that why Kouki turned out like that?) Because I was in a good mood?) I'll be happy if I brought you a little joy. I didn't do many love scenes, but I hope the extra chapter worked for you (sweat). Please let me know how you feel about this manga. I'd appreciate your feedback. Thank you so much for reading up 'til now! I hope to you see you again somewhere...

END

✱ Please visit Hinako Takanaga's personal website "ANAGURANZ"
http //cgi2 it-serve ne jp/~anaguranz

✱ To my editor: sorry for bothering you all the time...
✱ Thanks to my acquaintances and friends for their support
✱ I really appreciate everyone who read this. Thank you so much!